What is claimed is:

1. A method of isolating a compound of formula I or its enantiomers from an appropriate sample comprising the steps of:

5

$$\begin{array}{c} CH_3O & OH \\ \\ (\pm 1) & \\ I & \\ \end{array}$$

10

a) collecting the sample from a patient wherein the patient has been administered a therapeutically sufficient amount of (+)- α -(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-[2-(4fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-piperidinemethanol;

b) optionally preparing the sample for isolation of the compound of Formula I or its enantiomers; and

15

c) isolating the compound of Formula I or at least one enantiomer from the sample.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the sample is plasma.

3.

A method according to claim 1 wherein the sample is urine.

20

4. A method according to claim 1 wherein isolating is by chromatography.